

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 DHA-02 ACDA-07 OMB-01
TRSE-00 /112 W
-----130259Z 024146 /70

R 130031Z JAN 77
FM USMISSION USUN NY
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2021
INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY ACCRA
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
AMEMBASSY CONAKRY
AMEMBASSY DACCA
AMEMBASSY DAKAR
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
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AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
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AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
USLO PEKING
USINT BAGHDAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 3 USUN 0081

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNGA, PORG

SUBJ: 31ST UNGA: ROLE OF NONALIGNED

1. SUMMARY: IN SPEECH HERE DURING GENERAL DEBATE AT 31ST UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY (UNGA), SRI LANKA'S PRIME MINISTER BANDARANAIKE, WHO CHAIRS NONALIGNED GROUP, SEEMED TO SET TONE OF NONALIGNED AT ASSEMBLY. WHILE SHE TOOK INDUSTRIALIZED STATES TO TASK, SHE DECLARED THAT HER GROUP'S APPROACH WAS NOT ONE OF "HOSTILITY AND CONFRONTATION." ALTHOUGH NONALIGNED PRESENCE WAS FELT THROUGHOUT UNGA, THIS PRESENCE WAS MANIFESTED LESS VIGOROUSLY AND CONFRONTATIONALLY THAN MIGHT HAVE BEEN ANTICIPATED IN LIGHT OF COLOMBO SUMMIT. AS WELL AS DEMONSTRATING AWARENESS THAT 1976 WAS AN ELECTION YEAR FOR US, NONALIGNED APPEAR TO HAVE HEEDED BANDARANAIKE'S WORDS. SRI LANKA'S MODERATING ROLE WAS FURTHER STRENGTHENED BY PRESENCE OF ITS PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE AMERASINGHE AS PRESIDENT OF UNGA. OF NONALIGNED, CUBA, GUYANA, INDIA, NIGERIA, SRI LANKA AND YUGOSLAVIA WERE AMONG MOST INFLUENTIAL. VIETNAM'S MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION, DISARMAMENT, AND STRENGTHENING OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY (SIS) (WITH ATTENDANT EMPHASIS ON NON-INTERFERENCE) WERE ISSUES ON WHICH NONALIGNED MANIFESTED STRONG FOCUS. END SUMMARY.

2. NONALIGNED LEADERSHIP: THIS TENDED TO BE CONCENTRATED IN HANDS OF A RELATIVELY FEW NONALIGNED MEMBERS, WELL RECOGNIZED FOR THEIR ENERGIES IN INTERNATIONAL DIPLOMACY. THE NONALIGNED COORDINATING COMMITTEE (NACC) (ALGERIA, ANGOLA, BANGLADESH, BOTSWANA, CHAD, CUBA, GUINEA, GUYANA, INDIA, IRAQ, JAMAICA, CONFIDENTIAL

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LIBERIA, MALAYSIA, NIGER, NIGERIA, PERU, PLO, SRI LANKA (CHAIRMAN), SUDAN, SYRIA, TANZANIA, VIETNAM, YUGOSLAVIA, ZAIRE AND ZAMBIA) ESTABLISHED WORKING GROUPS ON MAIN QUESTIONS OF AGENDA OF 31ST UNGA. AS WILL BE NOTED, NAMES OF ALGERIA, CUBA, GUYANA, INDIA, NIGERIA, SRI LANKA AND YUGOSLAVIA WERE PROMINENT IN THESE WORKING GROUPS (WHICH INCLUDED NONALIGNED MEMBERS OTHER THAN THOSE IN NACC):
(A) WORKING GROUP ON DISARMAMENT AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY: ALGERIA, ARGENTINA, BRAZIL, EGYPT, ETHIOPIA, INDIA, INDONESIA, IRAQ, MALAYSIA, MALI, MEXICO, MOROCCO, NEPAL, NIGERIA, PERU, SRI LANKA AND YUGOSLAVIA.
(B) CONTACT GROUP ON CYPRUS: ALGERIA, GUYANA, INDIA, MALI, SRI LANKA AND YUGOSLAVIA.
(C) WORKING GROUP ON KOREA: ALGERIA, CUBA, SOMALIA, SRI LANKA AND SYRIA.
(D) WORKING GROUP ON ADMISSION OF VIET NAM AND ANGOLA TO THE UN: ALGERIA, ANGOLA, CUBA, GUYANA, SRI LANKA AND VIET NAM.
(E) WORKING GROUP ON SOUTHERN AFRICA: ANGOLA, BOTSWANA, CHAD, GUYANA, INDIA, NIGERIA, SRI LANKA AND YUGOSLAVIA.

(F) DRAFTING GROUP ON INTERFERENCE IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF STATES: ALGERIA, GUYANA, SRI LANKA, YUGOSLAVIA AND ZAMBIA.
(G) WORKING GROUP ON THE UN: ALGERIA, BANGLADESH, INDIA, IRAQ, JAMAICA, LIBYA, SRI LANKA, YUGOSLAVIA AND ZAMBIA.
(H) WORKING GROUP ON "PALESTINE AND THE MIDDLE EAST." ALGERIA, CUBA, INDIA, KUWAIT, MALI, PLO, SRI LANKA, SYRIA AND YUGOSLAVIA.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 3 USUN 0081

3. NONALIGNED ACTIVITY: THE NONALIGNED GROUP WAS AGGRESSIVE ONLY ON CERTAIN (MAINLY COMMITTEE I) ISSUES. THESE INCLUDED DISARMAMENT, SIS, AND VIETNAM'S MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION. ON DISARMAMENT, NIGERIA AND YUGOSLAVIA PLAYED VERY ACTIVE ROLES IN DISCOURTING US AND SOVIET DISARMAMENT ACTIVITY. NONALIGNED SUCCESS ON DISARMAMENT WAS REFLECTED IN UNGA DECISION TO HOLD A SPECIAL SESSION ON DISARMAMENT IN 1978. REGARDING SIS, THE NONALIGNED SUPPLIED MUCH ATTENDANT EMPHASIS ON GUYANA'S COMPLAINT OVER "DESTABILIZATION" WHICH ORIGINATED AT ALGIERS MINISTERIAL-LEVEL (NACC) MEETING IN MAY 1976. ADDITIONALLY ON SIS, NONALIGNED OPPOSED CONCEPT OF BREZHNEV DOCTRINE. ON VIETNAM, NUMEROUS OF NONALIGNED SPOKE IN SUPPORT OF VIETNAM MEMBERSHIP DURING SECURITY COUNCIL CONSIDERATION. IN ACT, NACC CHAIRMAN CIRCULATED A NOTE CALLING ON AS MANY OF NONALIGNED AS POSSIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN THAT DEBATE. ELSEWHERE, NONALIGNED ACTED IN EACH MAIN COMMITTEE GENERALLY AS A "SECOND FILTER," RATIFYING LANGUAGE DRAFTED BY REGIONAL OR OTHER WORKING GROUPS. BUT, EARLIER CONCERN THAT NACC, AS NEWLY CONSTITUTED AT COLOMBO, WOULD PREVAIL OVER OTHER REGIONAL GROUPINGS OR PREEMPT FUNCTION OF MONTHLY REGIONAL CHAIRMEN DID NOT MATERIALIZE. THE NACC ITSELF MET IRREGULARLY, WITH SUB-AMBASSADORIAL REPRESENTATION, BASICALLY TO REVIEW WORK OF NACC WORKING GROUPS AND WITH THOSE COUNTRIES RESPONSIBLE FOR "SHEPHERDING" LANGUAGE ORIGINATING AT COLOMBO REPORTING TO NACC AS A WHOLE. NACC WORKING GROUP AND NACC SESSIONS WERE OPEN-ENDED, WITH OTHER INTERESTED NONALIGNED PARTIES ABLE TO PARTICIPATE. THE NACC ALSO PLAYED A ROLE ON CERTAIN ELEMENTS OF RESOLUTIONS: E.G.,

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"FOREIGN ECONOMIC INTERESTS" ITEM DISCUSSED IN COMMITTEE IV (DECOLONIZATION). HOWEVER, IN COMMITTEE II (ECONOMIC MATTERS) AND COMMITTEE III (HUMAN RIGHTS), AS WELL AS IN COMMITTEE V (ADMINISTRATION AND BUDGET), THE NONALIGNED

WERE COMPARATIVELY INACTIVE, PERMITTING THE EVEN MORE BROADLY BASED GROUP OF 77 TO SHOW THE WAY (ADMITTEDLY, THERE WERE MANY CROSSOVERS HERE, SINCE ALL MEMBERS OF NON-ALIGNED GROUP ARE ALSO MEMBERS OF "THE 77", ALTHOUGH ALL MEMBERS OF "THE 77" ARE NOT MEMBERS OF NONALIGNED).

4. NONALIGNED SPLITS: OCCASIONALLY THE NONALIGNED SPLIT, AS ON GUAM AND TIMOR RESOLUTIONS. ON LATTER, FOR INSTANCE, THE NONALIGNED VOTE WAS: IN FAVOR 37; AGAINST 11; ABSTAINING 18; ABSENT 12. FURTHERMORE, THERE WAS CONSIDERABLE DISAPPOINTMENT AMONG NONALIGNED AFRICANS OVER PAUCITY OF PLEDGES FOR COLOMBO-ENDORSED NONALIGNED SOLIDARITY FUND FOR LIBERATION OF SOUTHERN AFRICA, FOR WHICH CONTRIBUTIONS WERE SOUGHT DURING DECEMBER. IT MAY ALSO BE NOTED THAT MEMBERS OF RADICAL NONALIGNED PRESSED FOR INCLUSION OF QUALIFYING ADJECTIVE "INNOCENT" IN CONNECTION WITH FRG'S INITIATIVE ON HOSTAGES IN COMMITTEE VI. HOWEVER, NONALIGNED GHANA'S OUTSPOKEN RESISTANCE CONTRIBUTED TO DEFEATING THOSE EFFORTS. DIFFERENCES REMAIN, BUT CONSIDERATION OF SAHARA WAS POSTPONED UNTIL 32ND UNGA.

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5. NONALIGNED IMPACT: IN ADDITION TO ISSUES NAMED IN PARA 3 ABOVE, THE NONALIGNED, ENERGIZED AT COLOMBO, MADE THEIR WEIGHT FELT ON A WIDE RANGE OF OTHER ITEMS: NOTABLY, ECONOMIC COOPERATION BETWEEN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES; THE UN UNIVERSITY CHAIR ON NONALIGNMENT; A RESUMED GENEVA CONFERENCE ON MIDDLE EAST; THE INDIAN OCEAN ZONE OF PEACE; AND CYPRUS. NEVERTHELESS, THE 31ST UNGA REFLECTED COLOMBO'S FAILURE TO REACH UNANIMITY ON A NUMBER OF ISSUES: KOREA WAS NOT DEBATED, AND DISCUSSION WAS LIMITED ON PUERTO RICO AND "ZIONISM/RACISM."

6. COMMENT: THE LESS CONFRONTATIONAL ROLE OF THE NON-ALIGNED AT THE 31ST UNGA WAS PROBABLY ATTRIBUTABLE TO A NUMBER OF FACTORS: SRI LANKA'S MODERATE LEADERSHIP; US LOBBYING BEFOREHAND ON SELECTED ISSUES; THE SITUATION IN LEBANON; AWARENESS THAT THIS WAS AN ELECTION YEAR IN US; THE RESULT OF ELECTIONS IN PUERTO RICO; CENTRIFUGAL TENDENCIES AMONG NONALIGNED; AND, HOPEFULLY, A GROWING RECOGNITION ON PART OF NONALIGNED THAT RESOLUTION OF CRITICAL WORLD PROBLEMS IS BETTER SERVED BY DIALOGUE, RATHER THAN INTENSE CONFRONTATION. RELATEDLY, BANDARANAIKE SAID IN HER PLENARY ADDRESS THAT NONALIGNED HAVE COME TO REALIZE "THE ONLY GUARANTEE TO EQUAL PARTNERSHIP WITH DEVELOPED COUNTRIES LIES IN THEIR OWN RESOURCES AND THEIR OWN EFFORTS." OTHER ELEMENTS TENDING TO LIMIT AN AGGRESSIVE NONALIGNED PRESENCE DURING THE ASSEMBLY WERE ALGERIA'S RELATIVE ABDICATION FROM DEBATE FOLLOWING ITS DEFEATS ON SAHARA AT PORT LOUIS AND COLOMBO AND

ITS PREOCCUPATION WITH INTERNAL AFFAIRS; ABSENCES FOR
RHODESIAN TALKS AT GENEVA OF TANZANIA'S PERM REP SALIM AND
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ZAMBIA'S PERM REP KAMANA; AND A SUBDUED PERFORMANCE BY
SENEGAL'S PERM REP FALL. MORE ABOUT UPCOMING NONALIGNED
STRATEGY AND TACTICS WILL LIKELY BECOME KNOWN FOLLOWING THE
NACC MINISTERIAL-LEVEL MEETING IN NEW DELHI, DURING LATE
MARCH 1977. ANOTHER DEVELOPMENT WORTHY OF NOTE IN CONNECTION
WITH FUTURE NONALIGNED ACTIVITY WAS ENDORSEMENT BY EAST-
ERN EUROPEAN GROUP OF YUGOSLAVIA'S FORMER PERM REP LAZAR
MOJSOV TO BE PRESIDENT OF 32ND UNGA. THIS ENDORSEMENT
WAS TANTAMOUNT TO ELECTION SINCE IT IS EASTERN EUROPE'S
TURN FOR PRESIDENCY IN 1977.
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Sent Date: 13-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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SAS ID: 3602168
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Status: NATIVE
Subject: 31ST UNGA: ROLE OF NONALIGNED
TAGS: PFOR, PORG, UNGA
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/2f0005da-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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